

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
POLLUTION/SITUATION REPORT
OPA - Running Foxes Emmerson Lease - FPN:UCGPE22707 - Removal Polrep



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
Region VII

Subject: POLREP #2
Progress
OPA - Running Foxes Emmerson Lease - FPN:UCGPE22707
0000
Richards, MO
Latitude: 37.9359104 Longitude: -94.6145933

To: Heath Smith, US EPA

From: Brianne Stubblefield, OSC

Date: 5/9/2022

Reporting Period: 4/8/2022 to 4/20/2022

1. Introduction

1.1 Background

Site Number:	0000	Contract Number:	
D.O. Number:		Action Memo Date:	
Response Authority:	OPA	Response Type:	Emergency
Response Lead:	PRP	Incident Category:	Removal Action
NPL Status:	Non NPL	Operable Unit:	00
Mobilization Date:	4/7/2022	Start Date:	4/7/2022
Demob Date:	4/20/2022	Completion Date:	
CERCLIS ID:		RCRIS ID:	
ERNS No.:		State Notification:	
FPN#:	UCGPE22707	Reimbursable Account #:	

1.1.1 Incident Category

Oil Spill Emergency Response -- FPN:UCGPE22707

1.1.2 Site Description

On April 6, EPA Region 7 was contacted by the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) regarding an ongoing crude oil discharge impacting an unnamed creek in Bourbon County, Kansas, which is adjacent to Vernon County, Missouri. The oil discharge was first reported by a Kansas property owner on March 21, when he observed oil within the unnamed creek on his property. The oil discharge originated from a tank battery operated by Running Foxes Petroleum in Vernon County, Missouri. Due to continuing impacts to the unnamed Kansas creek, KDHE requested EPA Region 7's assistance.

The responsible party indicated that the cause of the discharge was a malfunctioning water transfer pump which resulted in the produced water tanks on the Running Foxes Petroleum Emmerson Lease to overflow into secondary containment and ultimately discharge to the unnamed creek that flows from Missouri into Kansas.

On April 7, 2022, the EPA Region 7 Phone Duty Officer deployed two EPA On-Scene Coordinators (OSCs) and opened the Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund (OSLTF) in the amount of \$20,000 for potential response, removal and oversight costs.

1.1.2.1 Location

The Running Foxes Petroleum Emmerson Lease is located East of the intersection of Soldier Road and 267th Road near Richards, Vernon County, Missouri. The lease is located immediately adjacent to the Kansas/Missouri state line. Coordinates for the lease are 37.935866 West, 94.614641 North.

1.1.2.2 Description of Threat

On April 6, Region 7 was notified of an oil discharge by KDHE. The event had not been reported to the NRC. The cause of the discharge was a failed transfer pump resulting in brine water and crude oil overflowing tanks and breaching secondary containment at the Emmerson Lease. The secondary containment was made of a sand and soil mixture that was overflowed by brine water and crude oil when the tanks overflowed. The oil discharged to an intermittent, unnamed tributary to Shiloh Creek that flows to Marmaton River, a perennial stream, and the adjacent private property located on the Kansas side of the Kansas/Missouri state line.

1.1.3 Preliminary Removal Assessment/Removal Site Inspection Results

On April 7, 2022, two OSCs, Jeff Pritchard and Bri Stubblefield, mobilized to the site to assess the extent of the release and oversee RP cleanup activities.

The responsible party estimated that approximately 200 barrels of brine water and oil were released from the tank battery. An unknown amount of oil and produced water breached the secondary containment.

The crude oil/water mixture flowed across the Missouri border into Kansas through an unnamed intermittent creek that flows to the west of the facility.

2. Current Activities

2.1 Operations Section

2.1.2 Response Actions to Date

On April 8, 2022, OSC Stubblefield arrived on site and observed the field supervisor and field hands raking oil impacted vegetation from the creek area and bagging it for disposal. Exhausted boom was removed from the creek and oil was recovered from the ditch leading to the creek.

On April 9, 2022, OSC Stubblefield arrived on site and observed the field supervisor pumping down the produced water tanks as the lease continued to produce oil/water throughout the removal. The tanks were being pumped down as a precautionary measure due to an equipment malfunction that had caused the tanks to fill above operating levels, but did not release. Once the tanks were addressed, the vac truck was used to continue recovering a thin layer of oil covering a 20x4 square feet (sq. ft) area from the ditch that drains into the creek from a temporary underflow dam that was constructed on April 7, 2022, to allow water to flow into the creek. Hard and soft boom were placed on the Kansas side, in the creek, as precautionary measures.

On April 10, 2022, response and removal operations continued. The responsible party indicated that oil would be removed from stagnant water at the site followed by removal of underlying soil impacted by the discharge. Approximately 420 tons of impacted soil were planned to be hauled and applied to lease roads at the Vogel lease and Chi-Chi lease, both located in Kansas and owned by the responsible party. The responsible party notified the Kansas Corporation Commission (KCC), and OSC Stubblefield notified KDHE of the disposal arrangements.

On April 11, 2022, OSC Stubblefield arrived on site and observed the field supervisor using the vac truck to recover oil in the ditch leading to the creek. OSC Stubblefield conducted a site walk with the responsible party and discussed removal of oil on water in the ditch (15x4 sq. ft), stagnant water southeast of the creek (15x10 sq. ft), and removal of all oil-contaminated soil, an initial estimate of 440-660 tons of soil. The property owner agreed to the discussed objectives.

On April 13, 2022, OSC Stubblefield arrived on site and observed the excavation of oil-contaminated soil. The contaminated soil is being hauled to the Vogel lease and Chi-Chi lease. No oil was observed on the water in the ditch that leads to the creek.

On April 20, 2022, the responsible party updated OSC Stubblefield by phone. An estimated 420 tons of soil contaminated by oil has been removed to the Vogel lease and Chi-Chi lease.

2.1.3 Enforcement Activities, Identity of Potentially Responsible Parties (PRPs)

The responsible party is Running Foxes Petroleum, which owns and operates the Emmerson Lease.

2.1.4 Progress Metrics

<i>Waste Stream</i>	<i>Medium</i>	<i>Quantity</i>	<i>Manifest #</i>	<i>Treatment</i>	<i>Disposal</i>
Crude oil/brine water mixture	liquid	240 bbl			
Oil-contaminated soil	solid	420 tons			

2.2 Planning Section

2.2.1 Anticipated Activities

2.2.1.1 Planned Response Activities

The oil-contaminated soil will continue to be excavated and removed for reuse. The creek will be restored by leveling soil. The responsible party was advised to remove the underflow dam constructed for temporary precautionary use.

2.2.1.2 Next Steps

The EPA will continue to work with the responsible party throughout the removal.

2.2.2 Issues

No current outstanding issues.

2.3 Logistics Section

The Logistics Section was not activated due to the small scale of the response.

2.4 Finance Section

2.4.1 Narrative

No information available at this time.

2.5 Other Command Staff

2.5.1 Safety Officer

None at this time.

2.5.2 Liaison Officer

None at this time.

2.5.3 Information Officer

There is no known media interest and no known community impacts beyond local landowners.

3. Participating Entities

3.1 Unified Command

A formal Unified Command structure was not activated due to the small scale of the response; however, the EPA continues to coordinate with Cooperating Agencies and the Responsible Party.

3.2 Cooperating Agencies

Kansas Corporation Commission (KCC)
Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE)
Missouri Department of Natural Resources (MoDNR)

4. Personnel On Site

No information available at this time.

5. Definition of Terms

Kansas Corporation Commission (KCC)
Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE)
Missouri Department of Natural Resources (MoDNR)
Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund (OSTLF)
On-Scene Coordinators (OSCs)
Square feet (sq. ft.)

6. Additional sources of information

6.1 Internet location of additional information/report

No information available at this time.

6.2 Reporting Schedule

PolReps will be issued as necessary.

7. Situational Reference Materials

No information available at this time.